

issues, concerns about our educational system, public housing, all those things that make a big difference to the most densely populated State in the Nation—in the most densely populated county in our Nation.

Senator TORRICELLI built an unimpeachable career in the House of Representatives and used that as a platform to be elected to the Senate in 1996—always, always a tough fighter, tough elections, tough fighter for the issues he believed in, and particularly a tough fighter for New Jersey.

Together we have been able to have a very positive and constructive dialog with the White House, with five judges appointed to district courts, all as a package. This is a very important contribution to our judicial system, one where high-quality people agree to work. We were pleased to work together to respond to the tragedy of September 11 and the 691 families in New Jersey who lost a loved one, with regard to working on the funds, to assure tax deductibility for families was allowed, making sure the New York-New Jersey metropolitan region was properly or appropriately supported with financial resources. BOB TORRICELLI was a fighter for that.

He was a fighter for making sure we resisted domestic violence in the home, provided more housing for battered women, pushed to take guns away from wife beaters and child abusers, fought for middle-class tax relief.

Senator TORRICELLI and I did not always agree on some of the proposals. Some, we did. He certainly made a major contribution in our most recent tax relief proposal that the President and the Senate and others came to include, the college tuition tax deductibility, which he fought for, which was included, expanding deductions for student loans, a tax credit for lifetime loan. All these are major contributions that will live long beyond a term in the Senate.

He was a strong advocate for those suffering from Lou Gehrig's disease, eliminating restrictive Medicare rules with regard to that. On foreign relations issues, he was a constant and ever-present voice to make sure American foreign policy was broadly attentive to human rights and making sure America's interests were represented not only in meaningful defense terms but that we were involved in carrying a strong posture with regard to the values in which we believe in the Nation.

Finally, we cannot talk about Senator TORRICELLI's efforts without his strong political advocacy and representation of the need to make sure we have a strong two-party system in this country, with a voice, that ideas are openly debated, and the public has a choice. He certainly was most effective in leading the Democratic Senatorial Campaign Committee, but most importantly, in representing the view that we need to have a debate about ideas.

It is with a sad sense, from my perspective as a close friend and someone

who cares about another human being, that I congratulate him on service and thank him for all he has done personally. But most importantly, for the people of New Jersey, the people of this country, I thank him for his service to all for those 27 years.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Virginia.

Mr. WARNER. Madam President, I say to my colleague from New Jersey, that is the most appropriate way to speak with regard to our party colleagues, those two magical words understood by every American: Thank you. If I may, I take that as my keynote and, likewise, make a few comments.

#### UNANIMOUS AGREEMENT—H.R. 695

Mr. CORZINE. If the Senator will yield for a unanimous consent request, Madam President, I ask unanimous consent, notwithstanding passage of H.R. 695, it be in order for the Senate amendment to be corrected as follows: On page 57, line 9, insert a "\$" before "10,000,000."

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

#### FAREWELL TO DEPARTING SENATORS

Mr. WARNER. Madam President, this is a moment we look upon with mixed emotions: Yes, thank you for the service of these wonderful men and women and sadness of their departure; but to have the opportunity to say a word or two about the legacy they leave.

This is the most extraordinary legislative body in the entire world. People have often asked me, When did you decide you were going to become a U.S. Senator or try for the Senate? I suppose I have never been able to give an adequate answer. But it is a privilege that few have. For those who do succeed, what a rich reward this service is. It has been for me, and I am now concluding my 24th year. In January, I will start a quarter of a century of service in the Senate. That hardly compares with my distinguished colleague from West Virginia, Mr. BYRD, who has been here these many years, but a quarter of a century is a good start. I am privileged now that my State has reelected me for a fifth term.

But it has been with the help of my family, my immediate family. I shared breakfast with my eldest daughter. We talked about the years I have been in public service and the opportunity I now have to continue in that public service. It has been a burden at times on the family but one which any family would do, as every family here of those privileged to serve in this Chamber look upon that as a great reward.

I start with those colleagues who have served with me on the Senate Armed Services Committee and with my dear friend, Senator THURMOND. I remember so well when I was Secretary

of the Navy and I would come up before the Armed Services Committee at various times, of course, in connection with budget requests, but at other times I was called on the carpet pretty thoroughly by Senator THURMOND during the war in Vietnam. I served 5 years and 4 months as the Navy Secretary. He used to question me. As the hearing ended, he would pull me over and say: Why don't you think about coming to the Senate someday? I owe Senator THURMOND a debt of gratitude for instilling in me the thoughts that eventually led to my election to the Senate.

Senator THURMOND has touched every life with whom he has served in this Chamber these many years. He has touched mine very deeply. He was sort of like the older brother I never had. There is not a Senator here who, from time to time, does not quietly go and talk to the elder statesmen in the Senate about problems they have. I have certainly shared many conversations with Senator THURMOND.

Both sides of the aisle, Senator John Stennis, Senator Scoop Jackson, Senator Barry Goldwater—he sat right over here—Senator John Tower. It has been an enormous benefit to me to serve with, really, these giants of the Senate and those who served on the Armed Services Committee.

I was ranking on the committee for many years, and then, in a very courteous manner, Senator THURMOND came to me one day and said he really wanted to cap off his career serving as the head of the Armed Services Committee. So he succeeded me as ranking and then eventually became chairman of the committee.

Even though he had the title and I had stepped down as ranking and so forth, I worked with him very closely and learned a great deal. And still, this last moment, last night, after he delivered his memorable few final remarks to this body, we visited quietly together in the hallway.

Yes, STROM THURMOND, I thank you. I thank you for all you have done for me and for all you have done for America.

Tom Brokaw has written about the greatest generation, those who served in World War II. STROM THURMOND has had the most extraordinary of service. I remember one time he called me up and he said: John, the President has invited me to go with him to the D-Day beaches. It was the 40th anniversary. It was the thinking of President Reagan at that time, very wisely, that many of those veterans would not live to see the 50th anniversary. So Strom embarked for the beaches of Normandy on the 40th.

Howard Cannon, Democrat from Nevada, went with us. Howard Cannon had gone in on D-Day in a glider.

Lowell Weicker went with us. I remember his father had been Chief of the Air Force Intelligence, 8th Air Force, Army Air Corps. So there were just the four of us who went.

STROM THURMOND was assigned a helicopter right behind the President's